

**DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL**

3927 Lennane Drive, Suite 100, Sacramento, California, 95834

Contact: John Carr (916) 419-2525 or [john.carr@abc.ca.gov](mailto:john.carr@abc.ca.gov)Follow us on Twitter @ [https://twitter.com/ca\\_abc](https://twitter.com/ca_abc)Follow ABC on Facebook @ <https://www.facebook.com/CaliforniaABC>

PR 18- 12

April 30, 2018

**California Alcoholic Beverage Control Agents will be out on Cinco de Mayo**

*Celebrate Cinco de Mayo Responsibly  
Remember, Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving*

**SACRAMENTO** – The California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) will have agents out ensuring public safety through enforcement of alcoholic beverage laws at Cinco de Mayo celebrations in communities throughout California this weekend. ABC Agents will visit both ABC licensed businesses and large venues to prevent disorderly activity and reduce alcohol service to obviously intoxicated patrons and persons under 21 years-old.

ABC reminds anyone of legal drinking age to designate a non-drinking driver before any celebrations where alcohol is involved. In the rush to prepare for a night out, it's easy to forget the most important plan of all: designating a sober driver. Some may think they can play it by ear and wait until after the party has started to decide whether they're "okay to drive." By this point, it's too late. Going out for a night of drinking without a plan for getting home safely is a recipe for disaster.

Along with enforcement efforts, ABC relies on all licensees to follow the law. "ABC licensed establishments play a significant role in the effort to improve overall safety in communities. They can do their part by checking ID's, not serving obviously intoxicated patrons, and reminding everyone of alternative transportation options to get home safely," says ABC Director Jacob Appelsmith.

ABC supports the new effort from the Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) that aims to educate all drivers that "DUI Doesn't Just Mean Booze." If you take prescription drugs, particularly those with a driving or operating machinery warning on the label, you might be impaired enough to get a DUI. Marijuana use can also be impairing, especially in combination with alcohol or other drugs, and can result in a DUI. On average in 2016, someone was killed in a drunk-driving crash every 50 minutes.

Remember: *Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving*, and when you drive impaired, you run the risk of killing yourself or someone else. You will be looking at jail time, the loss of your driver's license, higher insurance rates, and dozens of other unanticipated expenses ranging from attorney fees, court costs, car or motorcycle towing, repairs and lost wages due to time off from work. The average DUI costs about \$10,000. A final statistic to remember: drunk-driving deaths are 100-percent preventable.

There are many ways to avoid DUI crashes and ensure a safe ride home. The OTS DDVIP app is now available for free download on iOS and Android devices. The app offers enhanced features, allowing users to search all participating bars and restaurants throughout California. Additionally, the app users can easily order a sober ride from a variety of cab or taxi services.

ABC Cinco de Mayo enforcement efforts are funded by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and remember - Report Drunk Drivers - call 911. The next statewide DUI campaign is set for Independence Day in July.

ABC protects communities through education and by administering prevention and enforcement programs designed to increase compliance with California's alcoholic beverage laws. To learn more about ABC programs that help protect communities, prevent alcohol-related harm and save lives visit [https://www.abc.ca.gov/programs/programs\\_PE.html](https://www.abc.ca.gov/programs/programs_PE.html). ABC is a department of the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency.



###